

CLAM FISHERY.

The clam industry of Alaska is centered at Cordova where two canneries were operated in 1917, one each by the Pioneer Packing Co., and the Lighthouse Canning Co. which was formerly known as the Lighthouse Canning & Packing Co. This was the first company to undertake clam canning at Cordova in 1916 by the temporary use of a warehouse on the city dock. ^{in 1917} Before the digging season opened, a new building was erected, 50 x 100 feet and two stories high, the second story being used for office and storage purposes. The machinery was transferred to ~~the new building~~ ^{it} and reestablished there after some minor improvements had been made.

The Pioneer Packing Co. was already occupying a modern cannery, so that ⁿ no change in respect to its plant was noted in 1917.

Early in the year, the Alaska Sea Food Co., acquired the one-line cannery built in 1916 near Point Whittished about nine miles east of Cordova, and began canning operations in March. On April 4, after about 400 cases had been packed, the cannery was destroyed by fire. Reconstruction began immediately, and a modern plant was soon erected and equipped with one line of machines, but operations were not resumed.

The Pinacle Rock Packing Co., also a new concern, erected some small buildings at Boswell Bay and made other preparations for canning clams. Operations, however, were not commenced.

^a The Kodiak Fisheries Co. packed a few cases of butter clams at Kodiak; and a few were also packed in southeast Alaska at Sitka by the Sitka Packing Co.

This industry shows an investment of \$294,987, which is a gain of \$137,044. It gave employment to 226 persons, as compared with 78 in 1916. A total of 74,515 cases were packed, as against 10,093 cases in 1916. The value of the clam products was \$274,036, as against \$35,622 in 1916, an increase of \$238,414 for 1917.

INVESTMENT IN THE CLAM-CANNING INDUSTRY IN ALASKA IN 1917.

Items	Number.	Value.
Canneries operated.....	2	51,242
Working capital.....		126,850
Wages paid.....		97,200
Vessels:		
Over 5 tons, power.....	1	6,586
Tonnage.....	25
Launches under 5 tons.....	11	7,493
Row boats and skiffs.....	46	4,708
Scows.....	1	908
Total.....		294,987

PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE CLAM-CANNING INDUSTRY IN ALASKA IN 1917.

Occupations and races.	Number.
Diggers: Whites.....	158
Shoresmen: Whites.....	65
Transporters: Whites.....	3
Total.....	226

PRODUCT OF CLAM CANNERIES IN ALASKA IN 1917.

Products.	Number cases.	Value.
Clams:		
$\frac{1}{2}$ -pound flat cans (48).....	30,827	100,257
1-pound tall cans (48).....	^a 41,087	165,410
2-pound tall cans (24).....	1,867	6,534
Clam juice:		
2-pound tall cans.....	682	1,705
10-pound tall cans.....	52	130
Total.....	74,515	274,036

^a Includes 10 cases packed in southeast Alaska.